

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

December 30, 2006 89 W. Carlton Road, Suffern, NY 10901 (845)352-1343 www.baistorah.org ט' טבת שבת פרשת ויגש

ערב שבת פרשת ויגש

הדלקת נרות 4:18 PM

מנחה 4:25 PM

הלכות שבת 8:00 PM – Rabbi Gottlieb

שבת פרשת ויגש

דף היומי 8:00 AM - Rabbi Gottlieb

שחרית 8:45 AM

סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:40 AM

שיעור גמרא 3:20 PM

מנחה 4:05 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 5:19 PM

עשרה בטבת* שחרית Sunday

Weekday שחרית

Mon.: 7:45 AM **New Years Day**

Tues., Wed. and Fri.: 6:30 and 7:45 AM

Thurs.: 6:20 and 7:45 AM

Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sunday 4:10 PM **עשרה בטבת**

Mon. through Thurs.: 4:30 PM

Second מעריב Mon. through Thurs.: 8:00 PM

ערב שבת פרשת ויחי

הדלקת נרות 4:24 PM

מנחה 4:30 PM

Shiurim

שבת at 8:00 AM – דף היומי - Rabbi Gottlieb

Sundays at 8:30 AM – מסכת סנהדרין - Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Mondays at 7:30 PM – מסכת ברכות - Rabbi Chaim Wein

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

Wednesday at 8:15 PM – קהלת - Rabbi Gottlieb

Thursday at 8:15 PM - מהר"ל - Dr. Murray Kuhr

Monday through Friday after the second פרשת השבוע עם רש"י - Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Monday through Thursday at 9:45 AM - גמרא shiur - Rabbi Leibel Reznick

I, Monday through Friday 5:25 AM and Sunday at 6:30 AM – Mordechai Rudman

II, Monday through Thursday 10:00 AM and Sunday at 9:30 AM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Women's תהלים group meets on שבת 45 minutes before מנחה.

Shul Announcements

This week's **kiddush** is being sponsored jointly by the **Fischers** in honor of their new grandson, Ephraim Yaacov, born to Tanya and David Fischer; the **Gordons** in honor of their new granddaughter, Chana Fruma, born to Dina and Moshe Gelbein; the **Fessels**, in honor of 2 new granddaughters, Dena Yakira, born to Ilana and Ephraim Friedman and Orly Zipporah, born to Pnina and Naftali Fessel; and the **Lehmans** in honor of 2 new grandchildren, Leah, born to Shira and Ariel Benmergui and Efraim Moshe, born to Hadassah and Dovid Feinberg.

*Sunday is **עשרה בטבת**. The fast begins at 6:10 AM and ends at 5:17 PM

To help prevent traffic accidents while walking at night, please wear **reflectors**.

Shalosh seudos is being co-sponsored by: Stuart Erdfarb in memory of יעקב בן משה -

Phil Holzer in memory of יעקב משולם - Arthur Landau in memory of

הרב יצחק אייזיק בן יוסף בן-ציון - Yossi Stern in memory of ישראל בן יששכר דוב הלוי

Our weekly **Avos U'Banim** learning program continues this Motzoei Shabbos, December 30th at 6:30 PM and is being sponsored by the Markowitz family. Parents and grandparents are invited to bring the kids and enjoy a pizza Melave Malka each week. Contact Michael or Sharon Kronenberg at 845-368-1064 or mkron@optonline.net for information.

Please join us on Motzoei Shabbos, January 13th at 8:30 p.m. for a delightful evening with Velvel Pasternak, who will speak on "**Chassidic Music, a Joyous Celebration!**" Don't miss the fun; Velvel Pasternak received rave reviews at his last Bais Torah appearance in 2000.

Only 3 parshios remain available for sponsorship of the **Rebbetzin Jackie Wein Sefer Torah Project**. If you've already pledged to contribute to the project, thank you! Your payment at this time would be most appreciated. For further information, please contact Michael or Sharon Kronenberg at 845-368-1064 or mkron@optonline.net.

We're pleased to announce that **Judy Scheiner** has been employed to take on secretarial duties for Bais Torah. She will be in the shul office Sunday 9:30-1:30, Tuesday 1:00-4:00, Thursday 1:00-4:00 and on Friday as needed. You can reach her by e-mailing her at judyscheiner@baistorah.org.

Mazel Tov

Manny and Chana Mayerfeld on the birth of two great-grandsons, one born to Chaim Dovid and Meira Bauminger of Jerusalem. The grandparents are Zvi and Dena Mayerfeld of Passaic and the second born to Yossie and Basya Zimmerman of Lakewood. The grandparents are Uri and Esther Mayerfeld of Los Angeles.

Yehuda and Suzette Munk on the birth of a great-grandson, born to Pesach and Ruth Diskind. The grandparents are Yaakov and Chani Glazer of Baltimore.

Refuah Shelaimah

יעטע בת שרה - Michael Rossman's mother, Ilse Rossman -

חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה - Mr. Shapiro -

בנימין בן בילה - Ben Zauderer -

שרה חנה בת בלומא - Shirlee Aaronson -

זאב דוד בן מרים - Zev Kessin - Miriam Schiffer's son -

מאשע בת שימה - Ed Furman's sister, Marjorie Schwartz -

איתן אפרים בן נחמה יטה - Ken and Judy Gribetz's grandson, Eitan Witkin -

יואל בן מירלא - Yoel Adler -

How to Reach Us

Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb 357-3913, rabbigottlieb@yahoo.com – Daytime emergency 362-8362

President Peter Katz, 357-0129 president@baistorah.org

Treasurer Barry Lifschitz, 352-0226, Fax 352-0841 or barry@lifschitz.net

Maintenance Yis Helprin 494-7446

Shul Secretary Judy Scheiner 352-1343 judyscheiner@baistorah.org

Simcha Room Reservations/Kiddushim Jack Gross, 357-4121

Bikur Cholim Eveline Kranzler, 352-8410 and

Eiruv 362-4302

Chosh Levy, 425-6827

Mikvah 425-6101

Chesed Committee Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

Youth Felise Katz 357-0129

Sisterhood Liaison Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833

Hachnosas Orchim Facility for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617

Lost and Found Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

Reb. Wein Sefer Torah Project 368-1064

Chevra Kadisha Steve Fessel, 425-1713, Ephraim Pessin, 914-420-6714 or Gloria Gordon, 425-1276

Sisterhood Tribute Cards, Mona Selzer 356-0129

Bais Torah Bulletins Email baistorah@taxprof.net, Fax (845) 368-4172, or call (845) 368-2222. To receive e-mail updates, write to baistorah@gmail.com. This bulletin is now downloadable from the web at www.baistorah.org.

In Case of Emergency

The **red Hatzolah phone** is in the hallway on the wall between the rear washing station and the Simcha Room.

The **defibrillator** is in a cubby in the coat room opposite the Hatzolah phone.

Parashat VaYigash - 5767 Two Yehudah's and a David

We've just finished celebrating the beautiful Holiday of Chanukah, which commemorates the triumph of the Jewish spirit, and the twin miracles of the oil and the military victory over our Greek enemies. It focuses on the achievements of the valiant Jewish family, the Chashmonaim who, under the leadership of Matityahu, the Priest, and of Yehudah HaMaccabee, the leader of his five sons, saved the Jewish People and prevented the forgetting of the Torah.

Yet, despite the greatness of Yehudah, as Rabbi Shimshon Rephoel Hirsch writes in an essay comparing the "Culture" of Greece with the Torah, "It was **not Yehudah HaMaccabee, the valiant hero**, who defeated Antiochus; rather, it was the "Lamp of Judaism" that defeated the external shine of Greek arrogance..."

And despite their great accomplishments, **when their later generations attempted to establish a ruling dynasty**, that Family was doomed to oblivion because, according to the RAMBAN, the great Thirteenth Century commentator on the Written and Oral Torah, they attempted to usurp the right of Kingship promised by Yaakov to his son, Yehudah, and to his descendants, when he said "**The scepter shall not depart from Yehudah**," the Jewish version of "Separation of Church and State."

In Vayigash, this week's Parashah, we meet Yehudah, the son of Yaakov, rising to confront Yoseph and plead for the freedom of Binyamin, and thereby complete his Process of "Teshuvah," Repentance, for leading his brothers into the tragic error of selling Yoseph into slavery. For at that time, he'd uttered the fateful and hateful words, "**Mah Betza ...**," "**Of what profit** to us is the killing of our brother; let us rather sell him to the Yishmealim."

He begins his "Teshuvah" when he spares the life of his daughter-in-law, Tamar, with his "Viduy," Confession, "**She is more righteous than I.**" He continues it when he says to Yoseph, robed in the garb of the Assistant to the Egyptian Pharaoh, "What can we say to my master, how shall we speak, and how shall we justify ourselves?" And he completes the process here, when he offers to become Yoseph's slave, selling himself to redeem his brother, in order to fulfill his vow to his father, "I will put myself in his place, from my hand may you seek him; if I do not bring him to you, presenting him safe and sound before you, I will have sinned against you for all the days," meaning **in this world and the next.**

Psalms 30, "Mizmor Shir Chanukat HaBayit LeDavid," "A Song for the Inauguration of the Temple, by David," is a central Chanukah psalm. It was written, as the name would imply, by King David, a descendant of Yehudah, known as the "sweet singer of Israel." In it we find a far different "**Mah Betza**" than that uttered by his ancestor at the pit! King David, from whom will come forth "Mashiach ben David," cries out to G-d, "**Of what profit is my blood, if I go down to the Pit?** Will the dust acknowledge You? Will it declare Your Truth?"

David also has a heightened sense of sin, "For I acknowledge my transgressions, and **my sin is before me always!**" But he also believes in Renewal, "Create in me a pure heart, O G-d, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

In the merit of our great leaders, who sinned and then rose to do "Teshuvah" with their whole hearts, may Hashem open for us the Gates of "Teshuvah" - if we only open ourselves to him the width of the "eye of a needle" - "as wide as the gates to the palace." PF